

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 9-17 are cancelled and claims 1, 6 and 8 are amended. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes to the claims by the current Amendment. The attachment is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Applicants have attempted to contact Examiner Le to schedule a personal interview regarding the outstanding issues. Applicants have been unable to reach Examiner Le since she is "out of the office" until early April. Applicants expressly request a personal interview with Examiner Le in April to discuss the outstanding rejections and this response, which is believed to obviate the outstanding rejections.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance; b) does not raise any new issues that require further search and/or consideration; and c) places the application in better form for an appeal should an appeal be necessary. More particularly, the amendments are in direct response to the comments made on pages 7 and 8 of the Office Action. The amendments help clarify issues that were previously claimed. Because the arguments regarding patentability include arguments distinguishing the Office Action's new comments, no further search and/or consideration is necessary. Entry is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The Office Action rejects claims 10-11, 13-14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, fourth paragraph. By this Amendment, each of these claims is cancelled to further prosecution. Thus, this rejection is moot.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,105,017 to Kleewein et al. (hereafter Kleewein). The Office Action also

rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kleewein in view of the article to Lu et al. (hereafter Lu). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present specification describes that an object of the present invention is to speed up the process of passing data from a database server to a user application in a database system. See page 4, line 26 - page 5, line 2 of the present specification.

Independent claim 1 recites a first process of enabling a database server operating at a server to store data processed on a database from the database, in response to a request of a program operating at a client, to a common storage device which is shared between the client and the server other than a storage device to which the database is stored, and to respond to the request by transmitting an identifying information which identifies a storage area of the data stored on the common storage device to the program. Independent claim 1 further recites a second process of enabling the program to refer to the storage area of the common storage device for the data based on the identifying information, to obtain the stored data from the storage area into the program.

For example, the attached Appendix A shows a modified Fig. 16 of the present application in which "various operations" are labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4 in order to more describe the features. Embodiments of the present invention are not limited to this figure or to these operations. Rather, this figure and description of operations is merely one example. The modified Fig. 16 shows the following: (1) in response to a request from a program, (2) data processed on a database is stored in a common storage device, (3) in response to the request, an identifying information identifying a storage area of the common storage device is transmitted to the program, (4) the program refers to the storage area of the common storage device based on the

identifying information, and (5) the program obtains the stored data from the common storage device (and not from the database).

Kleewein includes a computer 10, a computer/server 14 and a local computer 18 (running an application program 19). The computer/server 14 includes a CPU 20, a disk file 22 and a memory 24.

Kleewein does not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. In order to help better show Kleewein, the attached Appendix B shows a modified Fig. 1 of Kleewein in which various events are labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4 in order to more describe features, Kleewein modified Fig. 1 shows the following: (1) in response to a request from the application, (2) identifying information is transmitted from the database to the memory, (3) identifying information is transmitted to the application, and (4) the application accesses the database.

Applicants maintain each of the arguments set forth in the December 31, 2002 Amendment. Pages 7-8 of the Office Action provide comments against applicants' previous arguments. That is, the Office Action cites Kleewein, col. 4, line 55-67 as showing the claimed first process and the claimed second process. However, this merely teaches that the remote database control procedure (RDCP) stores an application query received from the application program. This does not teach or suggest that data processed on a database is stored in a common storage device (operation 2 discussed above). More specifically, this does not teach or suggest to store data processed on a database from database . . . to a common storage device which is shared between the client and the server other than a storage device to which the database is stored, as recited in independent claim 1.

More specifically, Kleewein's col. 4, lines 57-60 merely teaches that the RDCP stores an application query received from the application program. This does

not teach or suggest that data processed on a database is stored in a common storage device. Additionally, the RDCP responds to receipt of application query by establishing an SQL query. See Kleewein's col. 4, lines 57-60. This does not teach or suggest the program to refer to the storage area of the common storage device for the device based on the identifying information (operation 4 discussed above), and that the program obtains the stored data from the common storage device (and not from the database) (operation 5 discussed above). More specifically, this does not teach or suggest the second process of enabling the program to refer to the storage area of the common storage device for the data based on the identifying information, to obtain the stored data from the storage area into the program, as recited in independent claim 1.

In discussing the arguments regarding dependent claims 2, 3 and 5, the Office Action cites Kleewein's col. 3, lines 39-40; col.4, lines 55-56; col. 6, lines 12-67; and col. 5, lines 39-55.

Kleewein's col. 3, lines 39-40 and col. 4, lines 55-56 teaches to transmit LOB data from the remote database to the application program. This is not data processed on a database is stored in a common storage device (operation 2 discussed above), in response to said request, an identification information identifying a storage area of the common storage device is transmitted to the program (operation 3 discussed above), the program refers to the storage area of the common storage device based on the identifying information (operation 4 discussed above), and the program obtains the stored data from the common storage device (operation 5 discussed above). More specifically, Kleewein col. 3, lines 39-40 and col. 4, lines 55-56 does not teach or suggest the claimed first process and the claimed second process (as recited in claim 1) and therefore does

not teach or suggest the claimed third process, claimed fourth process and claimed fifth process (as recited in claim 2). That is, Kleewein does not teach or suggest that the storage area identifying information is created and is notified from the database server, and the data is referred based on the storage area identifying information. Dependent claim 2 defines patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

Kleewein's col. 6, lines 12-67 discloses a remote locator for transmitting the LOB data to the application program. The remote locator is another database. This is not data processed on a database is stored in a common storage device (operation 2 discussed above), the program refers to the storage area of the common storage device based on the identifying information (operation 4 discussed above) and the program obtains the stored data from the common storage device (operation 5 discussed above). More specifically, Kleewein's col. 6, lines 12-67 does not teach or suggest the claimed first process and the claimed second process (as recited in claim 1) and therefore does not teach or suggest the claimed eighth process (as recited in claim 3). That is, Kleewein does not teach or suggest that the storage area identifying information of the common storage device to which the data is outputted is created. Dependent claim 3 defines patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

Kleewein's col. 5, lines 39-55 discloses that the LOB transfer can be deferred if no local processing or use is required of LOBs and the LOBs can be uniquely identified. However, the local processing means a processing to another database or local database. Kleewein's col. 5, lines 39-55 does not teach or suggest the claimed first process and the claimed second process (as recited in claim 1) and therefore does not teach or suggest the claimed process of enabling the program to

refer to the common storage device to which the data is outputted by the database server, at the same node where the database server is in operation to obtain the data (as recited in claim 5). That is, Kleewein does not teach or suggest that the data is referred to at a same node. Dependent claim 5 defines patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

Accordingly, Kleewein does not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. None of the other cited references teach or suggest the missing features of claim 1. Independent claim 1 therefore defines patentable subject matter. Each of independent claims 6 and 8 defines patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1, and claim 7 depends from claim 6 and therefore also defines patentable subject matter. In addition, the dependent claims also recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of claims 1-8 defines patentable subject matter. Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

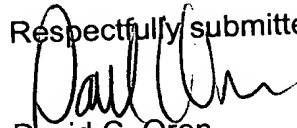
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8 are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the

deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.37238CX1).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Version with markings to show changes made

Appendix A

Appendix B

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) A database processing method used in a database system arranged in a client-server manner, comprising:

a first process of enabling a database server operating at a server to store data processed on a database from said[, which is stored in a] database [requested by], in response to a request of a program operating at a client, to a common storage device which is shared between said client and said server other than a storage device to which said database is stored, and to respond to said request by transmitting an identifying information which identifies a storage area of said data stored on said common storage device to said program; and

a second process of enabling said program to refer to said storage area of said common storage device for said data based on said identifying information, to obtain said stored data from said storage area into said program.

6. (Four Times Amended) A database processing system used in a database system having a client-server arrangement for treating a massive amount of data, comprising:

first means for enabling a database server operating in a server to output [to a file] said massive amount of data processed on a database from said [stored in a] database [requested by] to a file, in response to a request of a program operating in a client, said file being at a common storage device which is shared between said client and said server other than a storage device at which said database is stored, and to respond to said request by transmitting identifying information which identifies

said file on said common storage device to said program; and

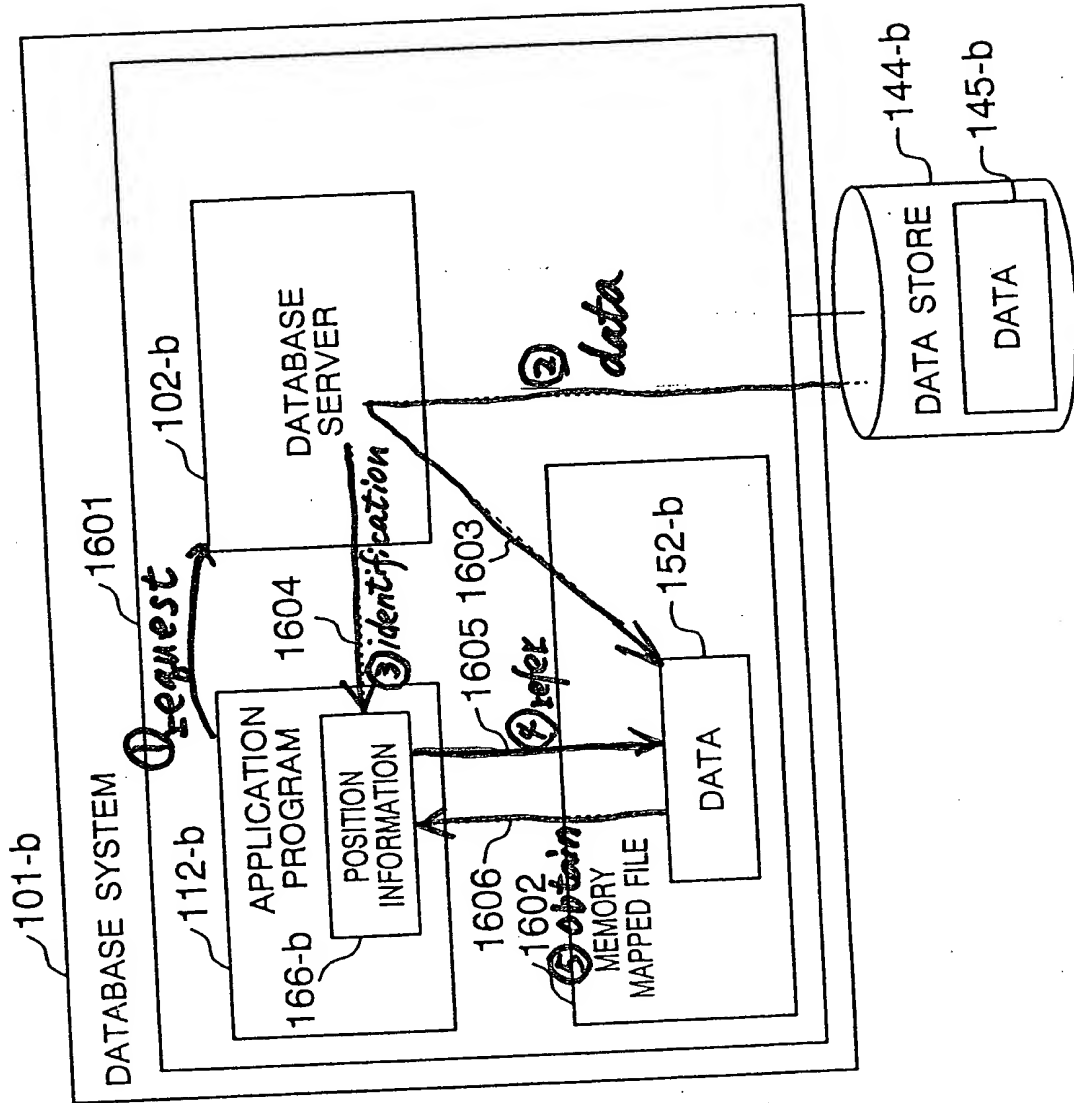
second means for enabling said program to refer to said file where said massive amount of data is outputted from said common storage device by said first means and based on said identifying information, to obtain said massive amount of data from said file into said program.

8. (Four Times Amended) A computer-readable storage medium recorded a program and data in a database system arranged in a client-server manner, said program and data comprising:

a first procedure of enabling a database server operating in said server to output [to a file] a massive amount of data processed on a database from said [stored in a] database [requested by] to a file, in response to a request of a program operating in a client, said file being at a common storage device which is shared between said client and said server other than a storage device at which said database is stored, and to respond to said request by transmitting identifying information which identifies said file on said common storage device to said program; and

a second procedure of enabling said program to refer to said file to which said massive amount of data is outputted from said common storage device by said first procedure and based on said identifying information, to obtain said massive amount of data from said file into said program.

FIG. 16



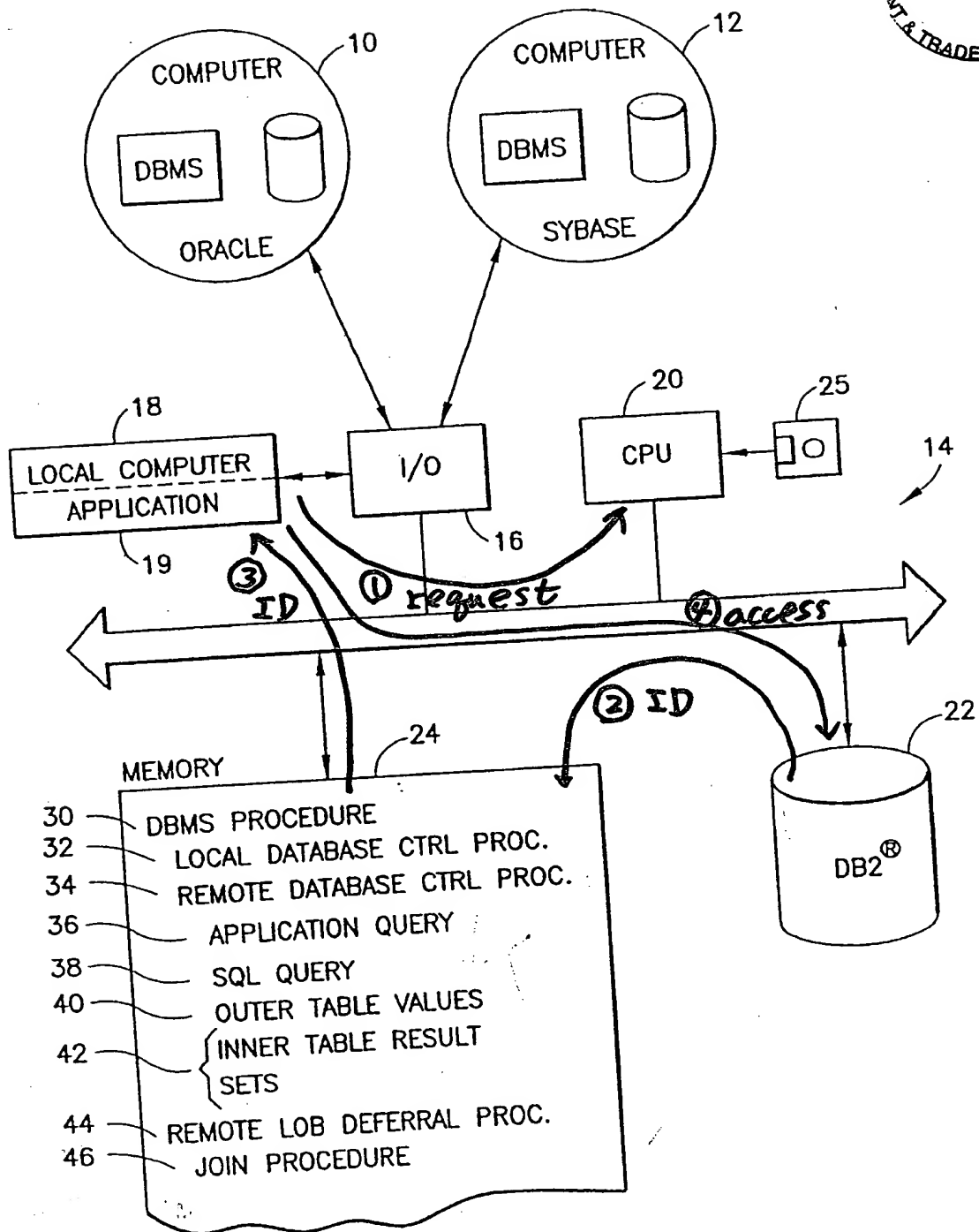


FIG.1